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December 1, 2004

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1654

JOSEPH M. AULT

Examiner: Meller, Michael V.

APPLICATION NO: 10/006,311

FILED: DECEMBER 4, 2001

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS FOR THE ORAL DELIVERY  
OF PHARMACOLOGICALLY ACTIVE AGENTS

Commissioner for Patents  
 PO Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of June 1, 2004 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on September 1, 2004. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$980 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Wilusz Jr.  
 Attorney for Applicant  
 Reg. No. 52,370  
 Phone No. (862) 778-7960

Novartis  
 Corporate Intellectual Property  
 One Health Plaza, Building 104  
 East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: December 1, 2004

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